

REMARKS

Information Disclosure Statement

Upon review of the file, it was noted that the foreign patent documents listed on Form PTO-1449 filed with the Information Disclosure Statement of June 6, 2005 were crossed out and have not been initialed as being considered. There is an indication on the returned Form 1449 stating that the crossed out references are not available in the instant application. Because this application is a 371 U.S. National Stage application and the references listed on the Form 1449 were cited in the PCT International Search Report copies of these references are not required. It is requested that the Examiner initial these two items on the Form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience, and return it to the undersigned attorney.

Election/Restrictions

Nonelected claims 20-22, subject to restriction, have been cancelled.

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 1, 3-15 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikuchi et al. (US 6761607) in view of Woo (US 5910517).

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikuchi et al. (US 6761607) in view of Woo (US 5910517) as applied to claims 1, 3-15 and 17-19 above, and further in view of Chiu et al. (US 6247986).

Accordingly, all the claims are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikuchi et al. (US 6761607) in view of Woo (US 5910517).

The Examiner stated that Kikuchi ('607) disclosed all the claimed structural limitation of the claims, except for the claimed lithium salts.

The Examiner further stated that, "In the non-analogous art, Woo ('517) discloses a "mold layer" with antistatic hard coating such as a lithium salt of an organic fluorine compound . . . "

Woo ('517) relates to an antistatic hard coating, not a mold layer. There is no motivation to combine Kikuchi ('607) with Woo ('517) since Woo ('517) is a non-analogous art reference,

as acknowledged by the Examiner. Further, there is no reasonable expectation of success that any of the lithium salts described in Woo ('517) are suitable for use in a mold layer of a flexible mold, such as the mold layer set forth in claims 14-15.

The Applicant notes that the nonionic perfluoro surfactants described at columns 5-6 of Woo ('517) each have a perfluoro group C_nF_{2n+1} wherein n is 4 to 16, preferably 8 (See line 34 of column 6). However, the lithium salts set forth in dependent claim 23 each have a fluoro group wherein n is 1-3. Claims 24-25 are directed to preferred lithium salts as described on p. 8, lines 14-20 of Applicant's patent application. Claim 24 recites the lithium salt $(C_nF_{2n+1}SO_2)_2NLi$ wherein n is an integer of 1 or 2; whereas Claim 25 recites the lithium salt $(C_nF_{2n+1}SO_2)_2NLi$ wherein n is 2. Woo ('517) fails to teach any of these claimed compounds and thus fails to teach all the claim limitations of dependent claims 23-25.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

October 26, 2007

Date

By: /Carolyn A. Fischer/

Carolyn A. Fischer, Reg. No.: 39,091

Telephone No.: 651-575-3915

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833